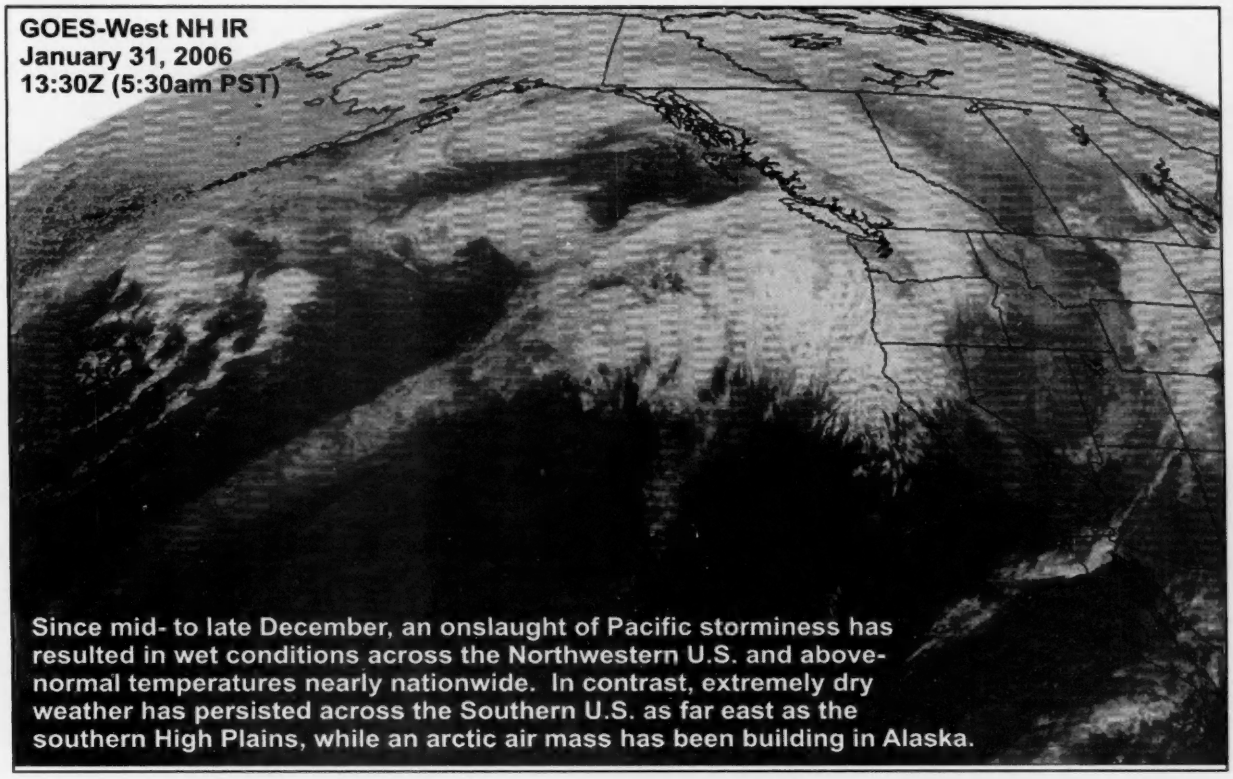
Volume 93, No. 05 http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/wwcb.html January 31, 2006

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service
and World Agricultural Outlook Board



Since mid- to late December, an onslaught of Pacific storminess has resulted in wet conditions across the Northwestern U.S. and above-normal temperatures nearly nationwide. In contrast, extremely dry weather has persisted across the Southern U.S. as far east as the southern High Plains, while an arctic air mass has been building in Alaska.

HIGHLIGHTS

January 22 - 28, 2006

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

Cooler air overspread the **West**, but above-normal temperatures persisted for a sixth consecutive week in most areas from the **Plains to the East Coast**. Weekly temperatures generally ranged from 8 to 20°F above normal across the **Plains**, **Midwest**, and **New England**, while streaks of above-normal daily average temperatures topped 40 consecutive days in some locations. **West of the Rockies**, heavy precipitation was confined to coastal areas of the **Pacific Northwest**. A few rain and snow showers briefly dampened the **Four Corners region** but failed to significantly improve meager mountain snowpacks or aid drought-stressed pastures and rangeland. Meanwhile across the **Nation's mid-section**, soil

(Continued on page 5)

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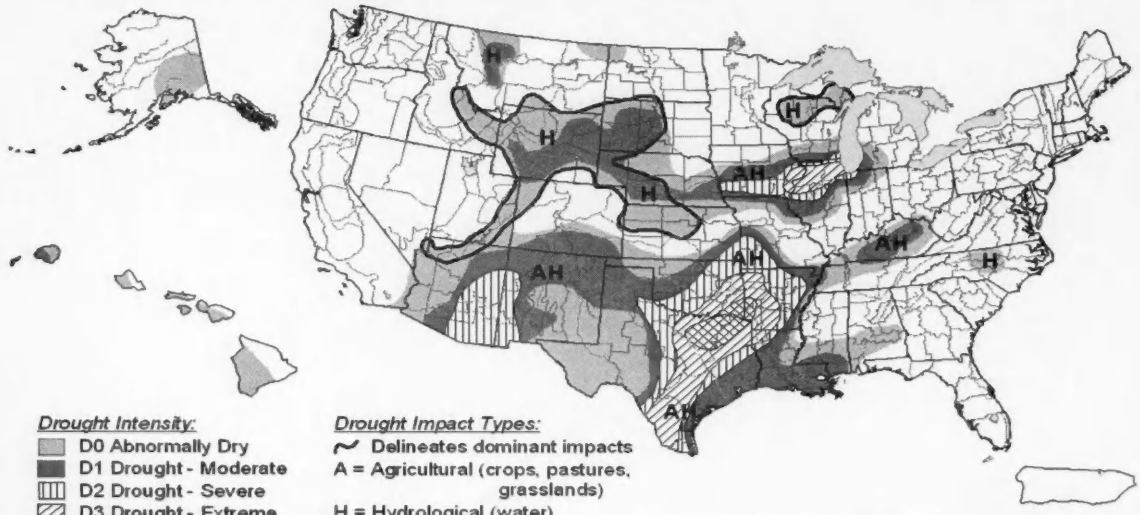
U.S. Drought Monitor

January 24, 2006
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Intensity:
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:
- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

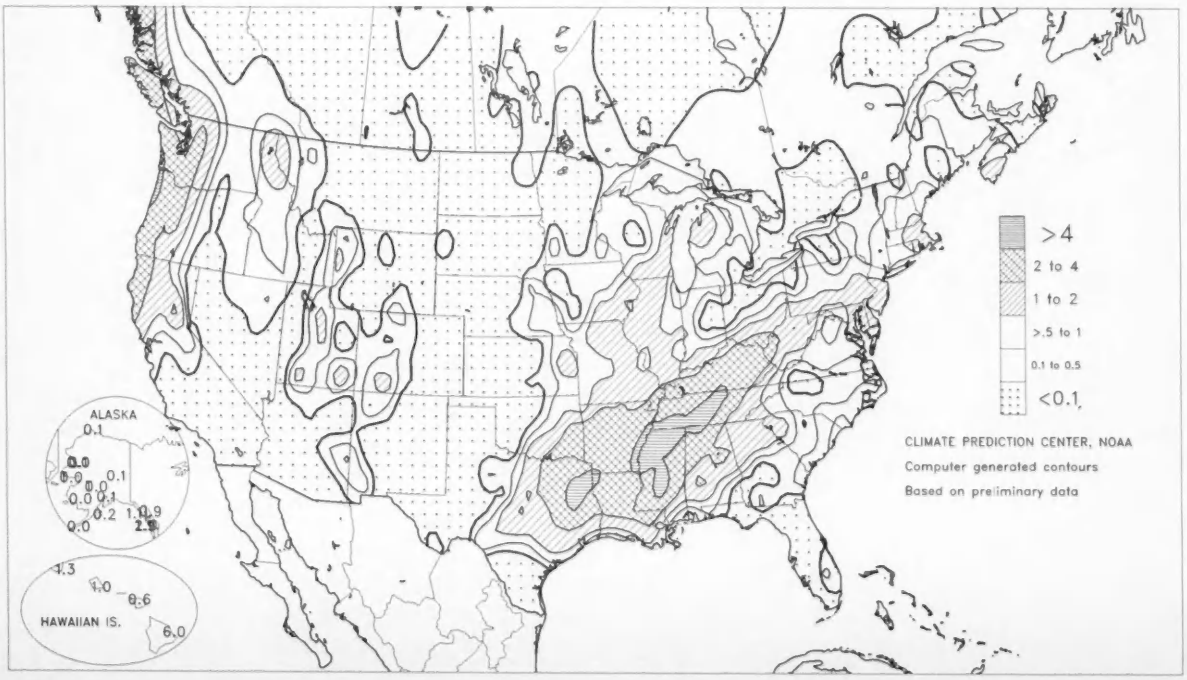
http://drought.unl.edu/dm

USDA National Drought Mitigation Center

Released Thursday, January 26, 2006
Author: Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

Total Precipitation (Inches)

JAN 22 - 28, 2006



Selected Temperature and Rainfall Records, Autumn/Winter 2005-06

Updated Through January 30, 2006

Latest Date of Season's First Measurable Snowfall
Location: Flagstaff, AZ
Amount/Date: 0.1 inch on Jan. 15, 2006
Previous Record: Jan. 7, 1930

Consecutive Days Without Rain
Location: Phoenix, AZ
Streak: 104 days, Oct. 19, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 101 days, Sep. 23, 1999 - Jan. 1, 2000

Consecutive Days Without Measurable Rain
Location: Lubbock, TX
Streak: 95 days, Oct. 28, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 88 days, Oct. 8, 1921 - Jan. 3, 1922

Consecutive Days With Measurable Rain
Location: Olympia, WA
Streak: 35 days, Dec. 18, 2005 - Jan. 21, 2006
Previous Record: 33 days, Jan. 6 - Feb. 7, 1953

Wettest 25-Day Period
Location: Seattle, WA
Amount/Dates: 12.80 inches, Dec. 20, 2005 - Jan. 13, 2006
Previous Record: 12.16 inches, Nov. 19 - Dec. 13, 1998

Wettest 30-Day Period
Location: Spokane, WA
Amount/Dates: 6.59 inches, Dec. 19, 2005 - Jan. 17, 2006
Previous Record: 6.56 inches, Nov. 8 - Dec. 7, 1897

Wettest 31-Day Period
Location: Laurel Mtn., OR
Amount/Dates: 54.86 inches, Dec. 18, 2005 - Jan. 17, 2006
Previous Record: 53.81 inches, Dec. 3, 1996 - Jan. 2, 1997

Location: Astoria, OR
Amount/Dates: 27.35 inches, Dec. 19, 2005 - Jan. 18, 2006
Previous Record: 24.82 inches, Nov. 12 - Dec. 12, 1998

Location: Salem, OR
Amount/Dates: 18.76 inches, Dec. 19, 2005 - Jan. 18, 2006
Previous Record: 18.32 inches, Dec. 4, 1933 - Jan. 3, 1934

Consecutive Cloudy Days [x]
Location: Green Bay, WI
Streak: 17 days, Dec. 24, 2005 - Jan. 9, 2006
Previous Record: 15 days, Dec. 26, 1991 - Jan. 9, 1992

Location: Milwaukee, WI
Streak: 17 days, Dec. 24, 2005 - Jan. 9, 2006
Previous Record: 14 days, Dec. 27, 1991 - Jan. 9, 1992

Location: Madison, WI
Streak: 14 days, Dec. 25, 2005 - Jan. 7, 2006
Previous Record: 14 days, Apr. 13-26, 1992

Consecutive Winter (Dec. - Feb.) Days With Lows >= 10°F
Location: Sioux Falls, SD
Streak: 40 days, Dec. 22, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 29 days in Dec. 1959

Location: Huron, SD
Streak: 31 days, Dec. 22, 2005 - Jan. 21, 2006
Previous Record: 29 days in Dec. 1959

Consecutive Winter (Dec. - Feb.) Days With Highs >= 30°F
Location: Sioux City, IA
Streak: 41 days, Dec. 21, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 1931-32

Location: Milwaukee, WI
Streak: 40 days, Dec. 22, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 31 days, Dec. 1-31, 1931

Location: Madison, WI
Streak: 40 days, Dec. 22, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 29 days, Dec. 1-29, 1881 and 1889

Consecutive Winter (Dec. - Feb.) Days With Highs > 32°F
Location: Lincoln, NE
Streak: 42 days, Dec. 20, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 37 days, Jan. 23 - Feb. 28, 1984

Location: Omaha, NE
Streak: 42 days, Dec. 20, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 34 days, Jan. 26 - Feb. 28, 1987

Location: Norfolk, NE
Streak: 41 days, Dec. 21, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Previous Record: 29 days, Dec. 1-29, 1923

Number of January Days With Highs > 60°F
Location: Springfield, MO
Number: 11 (Jan. 1-3, 7-8, 12, 15-16, 19-20, and 27)
Previous Record: 9 days in 1890, 1911, and 1990

Location: Joplin, MO
Number: 13 (Jan. 1, 3, 7-8, 11-12, 15-16, 18-20, 24, and 26)
Previous Record: 12 days in 1911

Number of January Days With Highs >= 60°F
Location: North Platte, NE
Number: 9 (Jan. 3, 6-7, 11, 14-15, 18, and 25-26)
Previous Record: 6 days in 1906, 1935, and 2003

Second-Longest Streak of Above-Normal Daily Average Temperatures
Location: Rapid City, SD
Streak: 42 days, Dec. 20, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Current Record: 48 days, Nov. 3 - Dec. 20, 1939

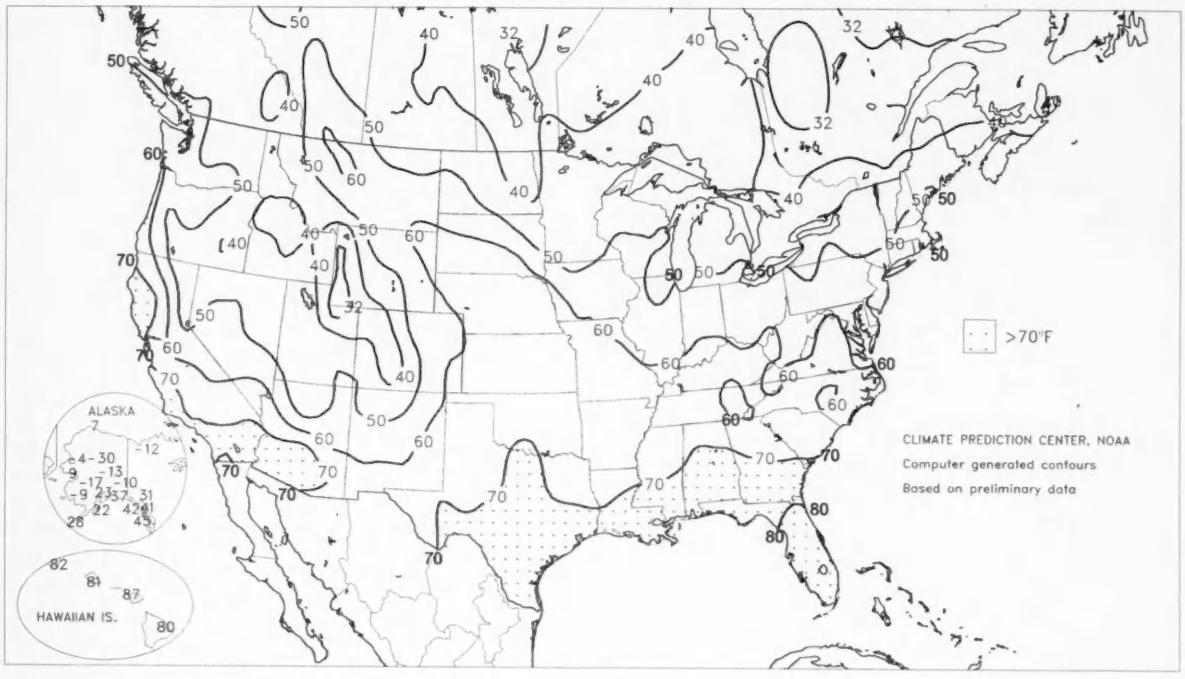
Location: Grand Rapids, MI
Streak: 40 days, Dec. 22, 2005 - Jan. 30, 2006 *
Current Record: 53 days, Jan. 15 - Mar. 8, 1998

Note: Records were compiled from information provided by the National Weather Service.

* Streak remains active through January 30, 2006.
[x] A cloudy day is defined as a day when the average sunrise-to-sunset cloud cover exceeds 75 percent.

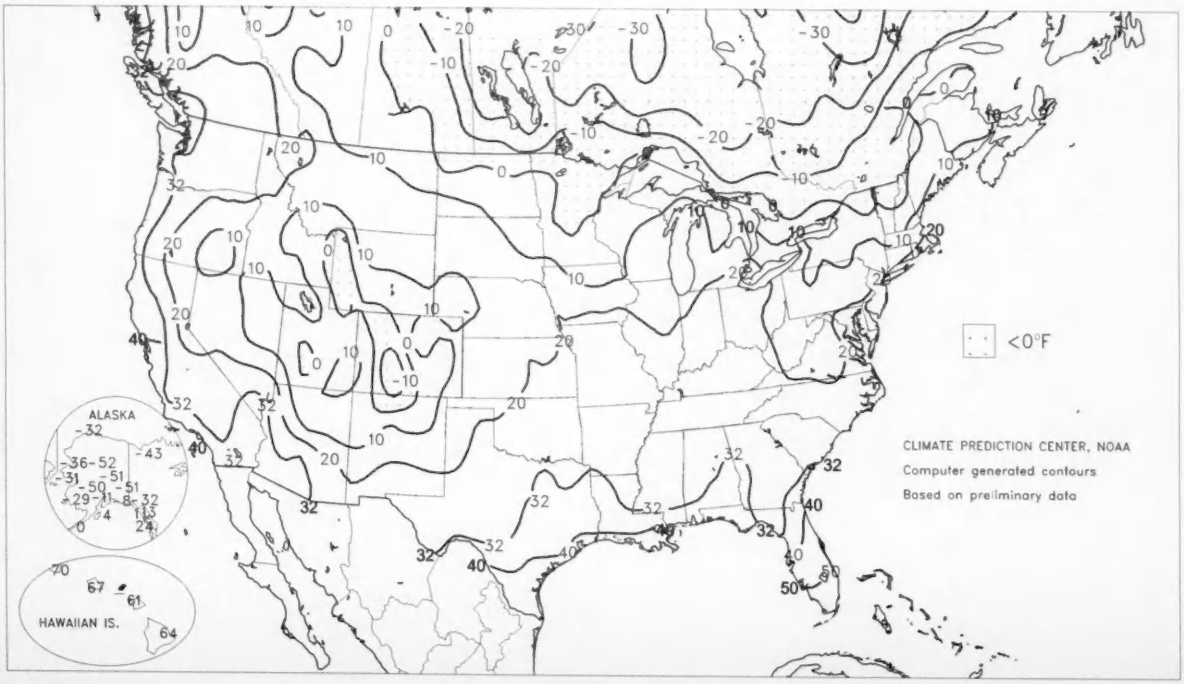
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

JAN 22 - 28, 2006



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

JAN 22 - 28, 2006



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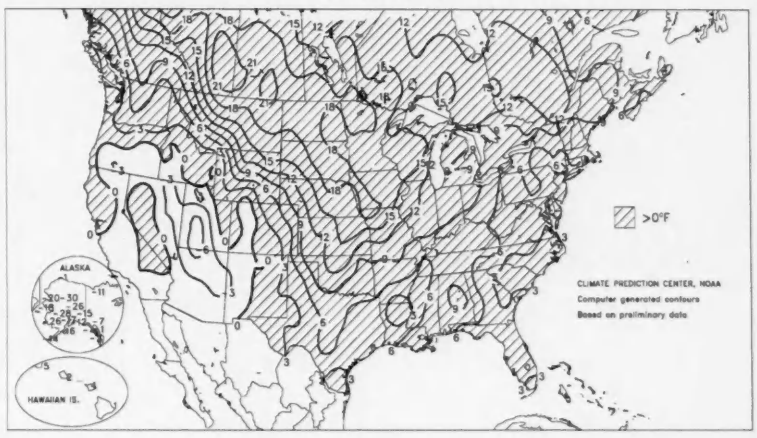

moisture shortages became more apparent as far north as **South Dakota** and **Nebraska**, although severe stress on the **Plains'** pastures and winter wheat remained mostly confined to **western and northern portions of Oklahoma and Texas**. In contrast, significant rain (1 inch or more) fell on the **southeastern Plains**, where relatively minor wheat areas of **eastern Oklahoma** and **northeastern Texas** experienced drought relief. Heavy rain also eased drought from **eastern Texas to the Delta**, where some locations netted more than 4 inches of rain. Rain totaling 1 inch or more also dampened previously dry areas of the **Midwest**, including **southeastern Iowa** and **northern Illinois**. However, muddy fields and feedlots remained a concern for some **Midwestern** livestock due to rain and melting snow. Elsewhere, snowy, windy conditions briefly affected the **Northeast**, while dry weather persisted across **Florida's peninsula**. As a result, irrigation demands for **Florida's** citrus and winter crops gradually increased.

Warm weather produced another six dozen daily-record highs. Record warmth prevailed in the **Southeast** early in the week before gradually returning to the **West**, **Plains**, and **Midwest**. On January 22, highs soared to daily-record levels in **Florida** locations such as **Tampa** (83°F) and **Sarasota-Bradenton** (85°F). A day later in **California**, **Santa Rosa** and **Shelter Cove** (both 76°F) collected daily-record highs. Along the **Oregon coast**, record highs for January 24 climbed to 70°F in **Tillamook**, **Newport**, and **North Bend**. **Tillamook** also achieved a monthly record, previously set with a high of 69°F on January 30, 1976. By midweek, highs topped 60°F as far north as **Montana**, where records for January 25 included 62°F in both **Great Falls** and **Cut Bank**. **Rapid City, SD**, which posted a daily-record high of 66°F on January 25, reported its second longest streak of above-normal daily average temperatures. **Rapid City's** streak began on December 20 and reached consecutive 40 days by week's end, behind only a 48-day warm spell in November-December 1939. Meanwhile, temperatures reached or exceeded 60°F on 9 January days in **North Platte, NE**, where the previous record of 6 days was achieved in 1906, 1935, and 2003.

Early-week downpours across the **South** resulted in daily-record totals for January 22 in locations such as **Greenville, MS** (3.44 inches), **Texarkana, AR** (2.97 inches), **Shreveport, LA** (2.82 inches), and **Muscle Shoals, AL** (2.46 inches). Farther north, enough snow developed at midweek to produce a daily-record snowfall in **Burlington, VT** (3.8 inches on January 25). Toward week's end, some of the heaviest rain in months overspread drought-affected areas from **eastern Texas to the central Corn Belt**. On January 28-29 in **Illinois**, 24-hour rainfall totals reached 1.58 inches in **Rockford** and 1.76 inches in **Moline**. It was **Rockford's** highest 24-hour total since August 18, 2005, when 2.23 inches fell. More impressively, it was **Moline's** highest 24-hour sum since May 30-31, 2004, when 2.57 inches fell. Meanwhile in **Texas**, January 28 totals of 1.63 inches in **Waco** and 1.59 inches in **Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW)** exceeded the stations' respective rainfall amounts during the preceding 88 days. November 1 - January 27 totals were 1.33 inches in **Waco** and 1.01 inches in **DFW**. Furthermore, it was **Waco's** wettest day since November 17, 2004, when rainfall totaled 2.75 inches, and **DFW's** wettest day since May 28, 2005, when 1.60 inches fell. Farther west, high winds accompanied a late-week return to stormy weather in the **Pacific Northwest**, where January 28 gusts along the **Oregon coast** were clocked to 93 m.p.h. at **Sea Lion Caves** and 75 m.p.h. in **Florence**. Farther inland, late-week **Oregon** snow depths climbed to 157 inches at **Mt. Hood Meadows** and 180 inches at **Timberline Lodge**. Elsewhere, **Key West, FL**, experienced 68 consecutive days (November 22 - January 28) with rainfall less than 0.10 inch, breaking its record of 63 days set from November 1981 - January 1982.

Heavy rain pelted **Hawaii**, particularly across east- and southeast-facing slopes of the **Big Island**. **Hilo's** weekly rainfall of 5.98 inches boosted its January 1-28 total to 11.17 inches (127 percent of normal). Elsewhere on the **Big Island**, 48-hour totals from January 25-27 exceeded 10 inches in locations such as **Piihonua** (10.55 inches) and **Hakalau** (10.34 inches). Despite the rain, month-to-date totals remained below normal in several locations, including **Kahului, Maui** (0.74 inch, or 22 percent of normal), and **Lihue, Kauai** (1.87 inches, or 45 percent). Farther north, extremely cold weather persisted across **Alaska**, where weekly temperatures averaged as much as 30°F below normal. In **southwestern Alaska**, **King Salmon** posted five consecutive daily-record lows (-33, -37, -36, -32, and -38°F) from January 22-26. In **Fairbanks, AK**, the temperature dropped to -51°F on January 27 and remained below -10°F for a 15th consecutive day on January 28. Some significant snow fell in **southeastern Alaska**, but mostly dry weather prevailed across the remainder of the State. January 1-28 precipitation totals included 0.13 inch (14 percent of normal) in **McGrath** and 0.18 inch (21 percent) in **Nome**. In contrast, **Juneau, AK**, collected a daily-record snowfall of 12.4 inches on January 4.

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 28, 2006

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000, Ext. 7503)

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE DEC01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC01	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	62	42	72	29	52	9	1.83	0.63	1.10	10.93	117	6.30	129	80	35	0	1	3	2
	HUNTSVILLE	58	37	65	28	48	8	1.45	0.26	1.08	10.39	98	5.46	110	76	60	0	1	3	1
	MOBILE	67	47	76	35	57	7	0.13	-1.20	0.10	6.59	67	3.00	58	77	54	0	0	2	0
	MONTGOMERY	67	45	78	28	56	9	0.73	-0.46	0.47	6.02	64	3.53	79	78	40	0	1	4	0
AK	ANCHORAGE	5	-7	23	-11	-1	-17	0.08	-0.05	0.05	1.20	74	0.30	53	82	74	0	7	4	0
	BARROW	-9	-22	7	-32	-15	-1	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.37	264	0.14	700	81	77	0	7	3	0
	FAIRBANKS	-30	-41	-13	-51	-36	-26	0.12	0.03	0.12	0.32	27	0.19	41	***	***	0	7	1	0
	JUNEAU	29	20	41	13	25	-1	0.93	-0.08	0.45	9.72	100	2.98	69	94	87	0	7	6	0
	KODIAK	19	8	22	4	14	-16	0.16	-1.61	0.11	17.44	116	3.19	43	74	58	0	7	2	0
	NOME	-3	-22	9	-31	-13	-19	0.01	-0.18	0.01	0.91	51	0.19	25	78	70	0	7	1	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	40	13	45	2	27	-3	0.17	-0.34	0.16	0.29	8	0.25	13	73	26	0	7	2	0
	PHOENIX	69	45	78	37	57	2	0.00	-0.15	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	36	21	0	0	0	0
	TUCSON	67	38	72	31	53	1	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.01	1	0.00	0	35	22	0	1	0	0
	YUMA	69	44	73	36	57	-2	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	47	32	0	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	58	35	66	26	47	9	2.47	1.95	1.69	3.49	63	3.10	147	87	43	0	4	2	2
	LITTLE ROCK	57	36	67	30	47	7	2.37	1.57	1.88	4.47	56	3.77	117	85	39	0	2	3	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	62	38	71	34	50	1	0.00	-0.28	0.00	1.87	105	0.76	75	82	62	0	0	0	0
	FRESNO	58	38	64	33	48	1	0.00	-0.50	0.00	5.30	165	3.30	176	91	83	0	0	0	0
	LOS ANGELES	68	49	76	44	58	1	0.00	-0.74	0.00	2.38	54	1.42	55	66	48	0	0	0	0
	REDDING	58	42	70	32	50	4	0.48	-1.03	0.44	20.79	198	6.89	119	74	61	0	1	4	0
	SACRAMENTO	58	38	61	33	48	1	0.12	-0.82	0.04	11.77	202	2.79	83	93	53	0	0	4	0
	SAN DIEGO	63	48	68	43	56	-2	0.00	-0.52	0.00	0.62	19	0.37	19	68	48	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	59	44	65	41	51	1	0.21	-0.86	0.12	11.96	176	2.62	67	81	68	0	0	3	0
	STOCKTON	59	38	61	33	49	2	0.08	-0.55	0.04	7.63	183	3.45	146	90	74	0	0	4	0
CO	ALAMOSA	37	-3	43	-13	17	1	0.06	0.03	0.06	0.29	57	0.25	139	80	53	0	7	1	0
	CO SPRINGS	44	18	50	6	31	2	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.54	86	0.24	114	72	24	0	7	0	0
	DENVER INTL	49	24	56	16	36	7	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.63	129	0.28	156	55	24	0	6	0	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	39	21	43	13	30	3	0.08	-0.03	0.05	1.17	114	0.42	82	82	55	0	7	2	0
	PUEBLO	48	18	55	4	33	3	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.76	117	0.52	200	75	39	0	7	0	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	42	29	55	21	36	6	0.71	-0.09	0.69	8.13	119	4.45	133	75	57	0	4	3	1
	HARTFORD	40	23	52	12	31	5	0.75	-0.09	0.75	8.53	121	4.86	141	75	53	0	7	1	1
DC	WASHINGTON	46	32	58	26	39	4	1.02	0.35	0.76	6.22	105	2.88	100	74	46	0	3	3	1
DE	WILMINGTON	45	27	58	20	36	5	1.16	0.44	0.94	7.30	113	4.04	131	81	41	0	6	3	1
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	73	55	80	40	64	6	0.00	-0.69	0.00	2.28	41	0.43	15	83	47	0	0	0	0
	JACKSONVILLE	70	46	82	33	58	5	0.01	-0.84	0.01	9.22	156	1.84	56	91	50	0	0	1	0
	KEY WEST	76	68	79	63	72	2	0.01	-0.45	0.01	0.14	3	0.09	5	82	64	0	0	1	0
	MIAMI	77	65	81	58	71	3	0.00	-0.44	0.00	1.08	28	0.08	5	78	50	0	0	0	0
	ORLANDO	78	56	84	45	67	6	0.05	-0.50	0.04	2.53	57	0.49	23	88	58	0	0	2	0
	PENSACOLA	67	51	75	39	59	7	0.28	-0.94	0.28	6.81	78	2.14	45	78	52	0	0	1	0
	TALLAHASSEE	71	44	78	29	57	5	0.08	-1.11	0.06	6.57	74	1.21	25	85	51	0	1	2	0
	TAMPA	75	56	83	41	65	4	0.12	-0.42	0.12	1.56	37	0.29	15	83	46	0	0	1	0
	WEST PALM BEACH	76	63	81	51	70	4	0.01	-0.88	0.01	4.18	65	1.48	44	79	55	0	0	1	0
GA	ATHENS	57	38	64	29	46	3	1.16	0.09	1.12	8.52	108	3.96	95	74	51	0	3	2	1
	ATLANTA	56	38	63	31	47	4	0.84	-0.35	0.76	8.59	104	4.92	111	77	55	0	1	2	1
	AUGUSTA	61	36	67	24	48	3	0.47	-0.57	0.42	7.07	99	3.11	78	85	49	0	4	2	0
	COLUMBUS	66	45	76	37	55	8	0.29	-0.78	0.28	4.89	56	2.51	59	77	38	0	0	2	0
	MACON	63	39	72	28	51	5	0.11	-1.05	0.06	5.62	67	1.86	42	84	41	0	2	3	0
	SAVANNAH	64	43	74	31	54	5	0.75	-0.13	0.73	5.10	80	2.38	67	87	61	0	1	2	1
HI	HILO	78	66	80	64	72	1	5.96	3.68	2.99	16.39	85	11.15	128	89	80	0	0	5	3
	HONOLULU	80	69	81	67	75	2	1.04	0.46	0.43	1.77	34	1.40	58	88	77	0	0	5	0
	KAHULUI	83	67	87	61	75	4	0.61	-0.19	0.41	0.88	14	0.74	22	85	72	0	0	2	0
	LIHUE	80	72	82	70	76	4	1.28	0.32	0.70	1.97	22	1.89	46	83	74	0	0	3	1
ID	BOISE	38	26	42	21	32	0	0.23	-0.07	0.10	4.67	180	1.27	105	91	77	0	7	3	0
	LEWISTON	48	33	51	29	40	6	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.81	139	1.17	121	79	65	0	3	0	0
	POCATELLO	34	18	42	13	26	1	0.17	-0.07	0.08	3.44	165	1.07	109	90	76	0	7	3	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	41	27	51	17	34	12	0.48	0.10	0.48	3.85	97	2.49	163	81	63	0	5	1	0
	MOLINE	42	27	56	16	35	14	1.32	1.01	1.26	3.46	97	2.42	175	83	65	0	5	2	1
	PEORIA	43	28	53	21	36	13	0.98	0.68	0.92	5.07	137	3.76	291	88	60	0	5	2	1
	ROCKFORD	38	25	47	18	32	13	0.92	0.62	0.92	3.40	103	2.40	195	87	69	0	7	1	1
	SPRINGFIELD	44	29	53	21	36	11	0.89	0.59	0.85	3.72	94	2.25	160	82	63	0	5	2	1
IN	EVANSVILLE	49	28	61	21	39	8	1.08	0.42	0.87	6.65	109	4.89	190	83	56	0	6	4	1
	FORT WAYNE	41	26	55	21	34	11	0.14	-0.30	0.09	4.82	105	2.67	147	85	63	0	6	2	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	44	28	58	21	36	9	0.20	-0.34	0.20	6.07	116	3.38	154	90	53	0	6	1	0
	SOUTH BEND	41	27	53	20	34	11	0.24	-0.23	0.19	4.20	83	2.41	121	79	63	0	6	2	0
IA	BURLINGTON	44	31	57	24	37	14	1.52	1.24	1.39	3.96	122	2.95	257	85	52	0	5	2	1
	CEDAR RAPIDS	41	25	56	16	33	14	0.87	0.65	0.75	3.15	133	1.82	207	90	60	0	5	2	1
	DES MOINES	47	29	60	19	38	17	0.16	-0.07	0.16	1.71	77	0.76	85	73	55	0	5	1	0
	DUBUQUE	39	23	52	6	31	14	0.83	0.55	0.78	2.81	101	1.16	105	84	67	0	5	4	1
	SIOUX CITY	50	21	62	13	35	16	0.12	0.01	0.12	0.97	83	0.20	39	81	51	0	7	1	0
	WATERLOO	42	20	57	3	31	14	0.33	0.14	0.30	1.97	109	0.85	123	85	67	0	7	3	0
KS	CONCORDIA	56	29	61	19	43	16	0.02	-0.08	0.01	0.44	31	0.09	16	73	55	0	4	2	0
	DODGE CITY	58	27	64	18	43	12	0.02	-0.08	0.01	0.36	28	0.17	33	73	27	0	6	2	0
	GOODLAND	52	24	59	15	38	10	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.96	126	0.80	222	74	48	0	6	0	0
	TOPEKA	55	33	62	21	44	16	0.63	0.44	0.39	1.74	78	0.74	91	74	55	0	4	2	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending January 28, 2006

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE DEC01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC01	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	WICHITA	59	31	65	21	45	14	0.15	0.02	0.09	0.77	37	0.18	25	70	47	0	4	2	0
KY	JACKSON	51	33	64	28	42	8	2.14	1.36	1.09	9.59	129	6.41	203	75	45	0	4	2	2
	LEXINGTON	47	29	60	22	38	6	2.42	1.73	1.97	7.85	112	5.45	183	80	57	0	6	2	1
	LOUISVILLE	50	32	63	24	41	8	1.23	0.51	1.18	6.35	96	4.31	148	82	43	0	4	3	1
	PADUCAH	52	30	64	20	41	8	1.87	1.05	1.27	9.03	122	7.57	250	88	42	0	4	3	2
LA	BATON ROUGE	69	47	78	38	58	8	0.60	-0.83	0.44	5.94	55	1.69	31	88	47	0	0	3	0
	LAKE CHARLES	67	46	76	38	56	5	0.50	-0.71	0.45	5.84	61	1.92	38	85	50	0	0	2	0
	NEW ORLEANS	68	52	75	46	60	7	0.43	-1.01	0.19	6.26	61	2.94	57	78	62	0	0	3	0
	SHREVEPORT	60	41	67	36	51	4	3.55	2.50	2.83	6.66	77	5.42	133	82	54	0	0	3	2
ME	CARIBOU	26	10	39	3	18	9	0.76	0.15	0.42	12.80	218	6.29	236	86	63	0	7	4	0
	PORTLAND	37	22	52	11	29	7	0.63	-0.25	0.50	8.53	108	3.23	88	78	48	0	7	2	1
MD	BALTIMORE	47	28	63	21	38	6	1.12	0.38	0.75	7.15	111	3.25	105	76	48	0	5	3	1
MA	BOSTON	40	29	53	21	34	5	1.12	0.24	0.79	7.50	104	4.62	132	75	47	0	6	3	1
	WORCESTER	36	24	49	15	30	7	1.01	0.14	0.94	8.40	113	4.66	127	79	48	0	7	2	1
MI	ALPENA	37	16	48	2	26	9	0.21	-0.15	0.15	3.81	112	2.19	139	86	57	0	7	3	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	37	24	46	17	31	9	0.19	-0.25	0.10	5.98	133	3.55	199	85	63	0	7	2	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	35	20	44	4	28	11	0.41	0.08	0.29	3.89	123	2.39	170	85	71	0	7	3	0
	LANSING	37	25	48	18	31	10	0.08	-0.28	0.06	5.27	148	3.36	242	79	66	0	6	2	0
	MUSKEGON	38	27	45	19	33	10	0.21	-0.25	0.18	5.78	126	2.84	145	86	66	0	5	2	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	39	27	50	18	33	13	0.47	-0.18	0.31	2.74	52	1.71	64	84	58	0	6	2	0
MN	DULUTH	35	16	45	2	25	16	0.09	-0.18	0.04	2.94	156	0.40	42	85	72	0	7	4	0
	INT'L FALLS	32	11	44	-5	21	17	0.16	-0.03	0.11	1.24	89	0.63	90	84	69	0	7	3	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	39	20	48	5	30	16	0.14	-0.08	0.10	1.45	78	0.48	55	82	66	0	7	4	0
	ROCHESTER	37	19	46	5	28	16	0.21	0.00	0.17	0.87	48	0.28	35	83	70	0	7	4	0
	ST. CLOUD	37	13	44	-2	25	16	0.07	-0.10	0.03	1.21	91	0.20	31	88	66	0	7	3	0
MS	JACKSON	63	41	70	28	52	7	4.05	2.79	2.07	12.13	116	7.25	142	90	48	0	1	3	2
	MERIDIAN	66	41	72	29	54	8	0.85	-0.49	0.63	7.16	68	3.76	71	87	52	0	2	3	1
	TUPELO	58	38	63	27	48	7	2.47	1.41	1.41	12.95	120	7.27	157	77	55	0	1	3	2
MO	COLUMBIA	49	31	62	25	40	12	0.73	0.33	0.73	3.14	79	2.19	147	78	47	0	5	1	1
	KANSAS CITY	54	36	67	28	45	18	0.81	0.59	0.70	2.95	112	1.21	122	72	43	0	4	2	1
	SAINT LOUIS	49	32	59	25	40	10	0.58	0.11	0.58	3.12	66	1.90	101	76	56	0	5	1	1
	SPRINGFIELD	52	31	61	24	42	10	1.15	0.67	0.85	2.71	54	2.09	114	70	49	0	5	2	1
MT	BILLINGS	50	27	59	17	38	13	0.00	-0.16	0.00	0.49	36	0.05	7	55	27	0	5	0	0
	BUTTE	31	13	43	2	22	3	0.00	-0.09	0.00	***	***	***	***	78	53	0	7	0	0
	CUT BANK	47	26	62	18	37	17	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.06	9	0.05	16	69	34	0	5	0	0
	GLASGOW	42	20	49	8	31	20	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.70	108	0.33	118	83	65	0	7	0	0
	GREAT FALLS	47	30	62	19	39	17	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.99	79	0.70	121	60	30	0	4	0	0
	HAVRE	46	22	53	8	34	19	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.73	81	0.31	79	75	55	0	6	0	0
	MISSOULA	40	25	44	19	33	8	0.00	-0.20	0.00	2.19	106	1.02	111	86	73	0	7	0	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	52	25	60	16	39	16	0.30	0.19	0.17	0.78	71	0.31	70	83	50	0	6	2	0
	LINCOLN	52	26	62	15	39	16	0.18	0.07	0.18	0.93	65	0.41	71	77	49	0	5	1	0
	NORFOLK	51	24	62	15	38	17	0.35	0.24	0.35	0.86	79	0.37	84	77	49	0	6	1	0
	NORTH PLATTE	55	18	65	8	37	13	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.45	63	0.21	68	85	30	0	6	0	0
	OMAHA	51	29	65	20	40	18	0.44	0.28	0.44	1.53	97	0.72	111	78	55	0	5	1	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	50	16	56	8	33	8	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.74	74	0.60	136	72	42	0	7	0	0
	VALENTINE	52	21	63	13	37	16	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.42	76	0.19	86	77	52	0	6	0	0
NV	ELY	38	9	45	4	24	-2	0.02	-0.15	0.01	1.23	108	0.58	91	85	61	0	7	2	0
	LAS VEGAS	60	40	63	37	50	2	0.00	-0.14	0.00	0.05	6	0.03	6	37	26	0	0	0	0
	RENO	48	27	51	21	37	2	0.00	-0.25	0.00	5.42	306	1.54	173	70	57	0	6	0	0
	WINNEMUCCA	43	20	47	13	32	0	0.18	0.01	0.16	3.99	261	1.71	238	82	69	0	7	3	0
NH	CONCORD	36	17	49	9	27	7	0.60	-0.05	0.58	7.62	136	3.07	117	87	51	0	7	3	1
NJ	NEWARK	44	29	59	23	37	6	0.75	-0.11	0.75	7.96	111	4.31	121	68	43	0	5	1	1
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	49	27	52	21	38	1	0.04	-0.04	0.04	0.14	16	0.04	10	59	21	0	7	1	0
NY	ALBANY	37	17	49	8	27	5	0.62	0.07	0.62	6.49	133	3.54	161	84	57	0	7	1	1
	BINGHAMTON	33	18	48	6	26	5	0.36	-0.22	0.28	4.98	94	2.96	132	84	63	0	7	4	0
	BUFFALO	38	24	45	12	31	7	0.31	-0.36	0.25	5.07	77	2.71	96	84	54	0	6	2	0
	ROCHESTER	40	23	50	11	32	9	0.04	-0.46	0.03	2.82	59	1.45	70	78	63	0	6	2	0
	SYRACUSE	37	22	48	16	29	7	0.39	-0.18	0.18	4.77	88	2.21	96	88	59	0	7	3	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	52	30	62	20	41	5	0.28	-0.66	0.18	6.83	98	3.32	92	82	47	0	4	2	0
	CHARLOTTE	54	31	60	22	42	0	0.37	-0.52	0.27	8.20	122	2.95	83	83	43	0	4	2	0
	GREENSBORO	52	31	60	23	42	4	0.07	-0.73	0.06	6.44	104	2.23	71	79	42	0	3	2	0
	HATTERAS	53	41	64	27	47	1	0.59	-0.67	0.51	8.15	83	3.35	63	89	60	0	2	2	1
	RALEIGH	53	33	60	21	43	3	0.12	-0.79	0.08	5.98	90	1.74	48	74	50	0	3	2	0
	WILMINGTON	60	38	73	26	49	3	0.31	-0.70	0.26	5.66	72	1.51	37	87	46	0	3	3	0
ND	BISMARCK	38	20	45	11	29	18	0.03	-0.05	0.02	0.99	129	0.15	45	83	63	0	7	2	0
	DICKINSON	42	22	52	12	32	17	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.42	69	0.28	104	87	48	0	7	0	0
	FARGO	34	15	40	4	25	18	0.03	-0.12	0.02	1.46	121	0.14	22	85	68	0	7	2	0
	GRAND FORKS	31	12	39	3	22	16	0.28	0.14	0.10	0.92	84	0.42	76	90	71	0	7	3	0
	JAMESTOWN	34	18	41	2	26	17	0.15	0.01	0.15	0.48	50	0.17	33	89	65	0	7	1	0
	WILLISTON	41	12	51	-7	27	18	0.00	-0.10	0.00	0.51	51	0.28	65	86	65	0	7	0	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	40	25	55	16	32	7	0.43	-0.09	0.26	4.23	82	2.88	131	80	58	0	6	3	0
	CINCINNATI	46	28	59	20	37	7	0.87	0.24	0.71	6.10	104	4.29	165	79	55	0	6	3	1
	CLEVELAND	40	27	56	21	34	9	0.05	-0.50	0.03	3.86	72	1.80	81	75	51	0	6	2	0
	COLUMBUS	44	28	58	24	36	8	0.37	-0.18	0.25	4.39	85	2.70	122	76	54	0	6	4	0
	DAYTON	43	28	56	23	35	9	0.16	-0.39	0.10	3.95	73	2.07	90	84	53	0	6	3	0
	MANSFIELD	39	25	55	20	32	8	0.11	-0.45	0.07	3.87	69	2.52	108	83	55	0	6	3	0

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STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE DEC01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE DEC01	TOTAL, IN., SINCE JAN01	PCT. NORMAL SINCE JAN01	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	TOLEDO	41	27	54	19	34	10	0.05	-0.36	0.05	5.27	122	2.10	124	78	61	0	6	1	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	39	22	53	14	31	6	0.55	0.05	0.25	3.91	78	2.50	121	82	60	0	6	3	0
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	60	34	66	23	47	10	0.22	0.00	0.22	0.51	17	0.23	21	76	36	0	2	1	0
	TULSA	56	34	66	22	45	8	0.50	0.17	0.50	1.26	33	0.74	53	69	51	0	3	1	1
OR	ASTORIA	52	39	64	36	45	2	3.50	1.34	1.37	34.15	179	19.67	227	94	84	0	0	6	3
	BURNS	35	12	38	3	23	-2	0.33	0.08	0.23	6.00	259	1.55	152	90	82	0	7	3	0
	EUGENE	46	36	48	32	41	1	1.44	-0.30	0.78	21.69	143	10.99	160	97	89	0	1	4	1
	MEDFORD	48	32	61	27	40	0	0.47	-0.08	0.34	11.57	227	4.50	205	96	76	0	3	3	0
	PENDLETON	50	33	56	27	41	6	0.07	-0.25	0.03	4.73	173	2.16	171	84	60	0	4	3	0
	PORTLAND	50	39	58	34	45	4	1.09	-0.04	0.65	16.38	160	8.86	196	91	80	0	0	4	1
	SALEM	46	37	50	33	42	1	1.38	0.06	0.71	22.81	196	11.29	217	95	89	0	0	4	1
PA	ALLENTOWN	43	24	57	16	34	7	0.69	-0.07	0.58	8.09	124	4.51	144	77	59	0	7	3	1
	ERIE	40	26	52	18	33	7	0.09	-0.43	0.06	4.94	83	1.98	88	78	58	0	6	4	0
	MIDDLETOWN	44	26	56	21	35	7	0.84	0.19	0.55	5.68	99	2.96	119	85	44	0	7	4	1
	PHILADELPHIA	45	30	59	23	38	6	1.16	0.40	0.98	7.16	111	4.19	133	73	45	0	5	3	1
	PITTSBURGH	41	23	55	14	32	5	0.65	0.05	0.40	4.98	95	3.25	135	84	53	0	6	4	0
	WILKES-BARRE	37	23	51	11	30	4	0.60	0.05	0.47	6.73	143	3.97	185	82	55	0	7	3	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	40	23	55	14	31	6	0.74	0.08	0.61	7.22	133	4.95	198	81	65	0	7	3	1
RI	PROVIDENCE	43	29	55	22	36	7	0.88	-0.08	0.80	9.04	112	4.70	120	71	49	0	6	2	1
SC	BEAUFORT	62	42	70	31	52	3	0.39	-0.53	0.28	3.29	50	0.79	23	88	44	0	1	2	0
	CHARLESTON	63	39	69	27	51	3	0.67	-0.22	0.48	5.83	85	2.58	71	86	47	0	3	3	0
	COLUMBIA	58	35	65	25	47	2	0.40	-0.66	0.34	6.73	89	2.64	63	86	56	0	3	2	0
	GREENVILLE	55	34	63	25	45	4	0.42	-0.56	0.37	8.38	108	3.56	91	76	41	0	3	3	0
SD	ABERDEEN	37	21	43	3	29	17	0.01	-0.07	0.01	1.27	163	0.16	40	83	67	0	7	1	0
	HURON	44	23	58	9	34	19	0.00	-0.09	0.00	0.66	89	0.08	23	88	55	0	6	0	0
	RAPID CITY	54	22	66	16	38	15	0.01	-0.05	0.01	0.42	62	0.17	61	74	30	0	7	1	0
	SIOUX FALLS	44	23	57	15	34	19	0.55	0.44	0.55	1.81	193	0.78	186	82	61	0	6	1	1
TN	BRISTOL	52	32	59	20	42	8	0.40	-0.40	0.20	6.17	95	3.46	111	88	44	0	4	3	0
	CHATTANOOGA	55	38	62	29	46	6	0.46	-0.77	0.45	8.44	88	4.59	95	79	52	0	2	2	0
	KNOXVILLE	52	34	62	24	43	5	0.34	-0.66	0.31	6.51	76	3.68	90	89	48	0	3	3	0
	MEMPHIS	55	38	61	31	46	6	4.19	3.25	2.63	9.08	96	7.17	191	77	45	0	2	3	2
	NASHVILLE	53	33	65	24	43	6	2.98	2.13	2.60	8.55	106	6.09	172	81	43	0	3	3	1
TX	ABILENE	62	37	68	27	49	5	0.41	0.22	0.26	0.52	25	0.41	49	78	64	0	2	3	0
	AMARILLO	57	27	63	17	42	6	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.07	6	0.04	7	73	25	0	6	0	0
	AUSTIN	67	40	73	30	54	3	0.55	0.16	0.29	0.71	17	0.62	37	81	60	0	2	2	0
	BEAUMONT	67	48	76	39	58	6	0.66	-0.54	0.52	4.03	39	1.87	36	86	50	0	0	2	1
	BROWNSVILLE	70	56	78	50	63	3	0.02	-0.32	0.02	2.19	97	0.69	60	86	68	0	0	1	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	69	52	78	46	60	4	0.09	-0.27	0.08	0.63	20	0.27	19	89	75	0	0	2	0
	DEL RIO	68	45	73	35	57	5	0.25	0.11	0.17	0.31	26	0.25	58	79	51	0	0	2	0
	EL PASO	61	37	65	28	49	3	0.02	-0.06	0.02	0.02	2	0.02	5	53	26	0	2	1	0
	FORT WORTH	62	41	70	33	51	7	2.25	1.89	1.59	2.58	61	2.25	135	76	38	0	0	2	2
	GALVESTON	64	53	70	47	59	3	0.27	-0.64	0.26	2.75	38	0.39	11	90	64	0	0	2	0
	HOUSTON	65	48	74	40	56	4	1.64	0.83	1.02	8.89	127	2.52	77	83	58	0	0	2	2
	LUBBOCK	60	31	65	21	46	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	70	42	0	4	0	0
	MIDLAND	60	33	65	23	46	2	0.16	0.05	0.15	0.27	25	0.16	36	74	39	0	4	2	0
	SAN ANGELO	63	36	69	23	50	5	0.17	-0.02	0.12	0.20	12	0.18	27	79	50	0	3	4	0
	SAN ANTONIO	68	47	75	37	58	7	0.28	-0.08	0.16	0.46	13	0.36	25	82	45	0	0	2	0
	VICTORIA	66	46	73	38	56	3	0.84	0.32	0.52	1.99	43	1.50	69	94	74	0	0	2	1
	WACO	63	39	71	29	51	5	1.92	1.52	1.63	2.45	55	2.02	122	81	52	0	2	2	1
	WICHITA FALLS	64	37	72	27	51	10	0.64	0.42	0.35	0.82	31	0.64	67	69	47	0	2	3	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	37	23	43	20	30	0	0.20	-0.10	0.15	2.40	99	1.14	96	89	61	0	7	2	0
VT	BURLINGTON	34	17	46	0	26	9	0.71	0.21	0.31	5.52	132	3.31	169	84	53	0	7	4	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	49	29	63	17	39	4	0.79	0.01	0.53	6.01	94	2.98	95	70	40	0	3	2	1
	NORFOLK	50	36	60	28	43	3	0.15	-0.73	0.09	6.30	96	2.00	57	77	50	0	2	2	0
	RICHMOND	50	32	62	21	41	5	0.54	-0.22	0.36	8.46	134	2.65	83	70	40	0	3	2	0
	ROANOKE	50	31	64	22	40	4	0.61	-0.13	0.60	5.78	101	3.42	120	68	41	0	4	2	1
	WASH/DULLES	46	28	63	22	37	5	0.69	0.03	0.49	5.25	91	2.31	85	73	44	0	6	3	0
WA	OLYMPIA	46	35	53	29	41	2	1.69	-0.02	0.79	21.04	144	12.15	180	95	87	0	1	4	1
	QUILLAYUTE	50	39	60	34	44	3	3.62	0.51	0.94	31.38	117	22.10	180	93	83	0	0	7	5
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	51	41	56	37	46	5	1.15	-0.01	0.83	16.27	160	9.42	206	90	78	0	0	5	1
	SPOKANE	37	29	40	25	33	5	0.28	-0.11	0.12	7.26	189	4.30	270	100	86	0	7	4	0
	YAKIMA	45	26	49	22	35	4	0.34	0.12	0.21	3.79	159	1.40	139	94	84	0	7	2	0
WV	BECKLEY	44	26	57	15	35	5	0.29	-0.43	0.18	4.80	81	2.08	73	83	54	0	5	4	0
	CHARLESTON	48	29	61	20	39	6	1.74	1.00	1.11	6.25	101	3.60	125	88	46	0	6	3	2
	ELKINS	45	21	56	5	33	4	0.62	-0.15	0.43	5.83	90	3.25	106	88	43	0	6	5	0
	HUNTINGTON	48	29	62	20	38	5	1.94	1.25	1.23	6.04	97	3.67	130	81	49	0	6	3	2
WI	EAU CLAIRE	40	18	50	6	29	17	0.23	0.00	0.18	1.17	61	0.80	91	87	54	0	7	4	0
	GREEN BAY	39	24	51	18	32	16	0.54	0.27	0.54	2.14	87	1.10	105	84	56	0	6	1	1
	LA CROSSE	41	21	54	9	31	15	0.15	-0.13	0.15	0.90	40	0.34	34	86	51	0	7	1	0
	MADISON	39	23	51	16	31	14	0.57	0.29	0.53	2.47	91	1.48	140	86	63	0	6	2	1
	MILWAUKEE	39	26	47	20	33	12	0.57	0.16	0.55	3.50	92	2.32	146	77	61	0	6	2	1
WY	CASPER	39	22	49	10	30	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.08	102	0.79	180	67	46	0	7	0	0
	CHEYENNE	44	19	56	11	32	6	0.00	-0.08	0.00	0.32	41	0.04	12	46	24	0	7	0	0
	LANDER	41	15	48	10	28	7	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.55	52	0.16	36	70	53	0	7	0	0
	SHERIDAN	50	18	57	11	34	12	0.09	-0.07	0.08	0.59	44	0.11	17	66	48	0	7	2	0

Based on 1971-2000 normals

*** Not Available

National Agricultural Summary

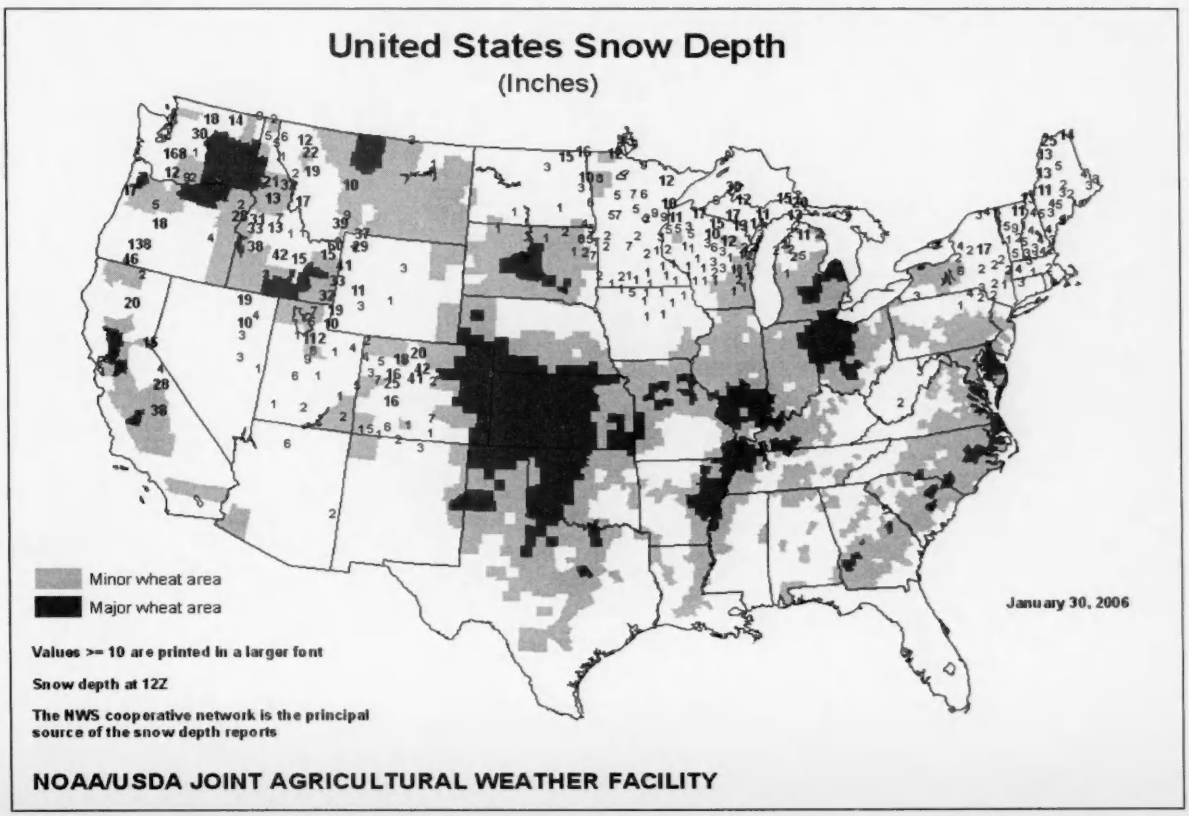
January 23 - 29, 2006

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Above-normal temperatures prevailed again across most of the Nation. Across the northern Great Plains, average temperatures exceeded the normal by 15 degrees Fahrenheit or more, causing further depletion of protective snow cover. Dry weather and windy conditions in the Great Plains continued to stress the winter wheat crop, especially in the southern-most areas of the region. Meanwhile, light to moderate precipitation across much of the Corn Belt benefited crops and pastures, while moderate to heavy rainfall in the Mississippi Delta and adjacent areas of the Southeast were favorable for crop conditions but limited fieldwork. Only light precipitation fell in the interior Pacific Northwest, where snow cover has begun to melt under warm conditions.

Recent cool weather in California has helped with the accumulation of chill hours in fruit orchards, but blooming has already been reported in many areas. In Arizona, harvest of alfalfa, citrus, and vegetable crops was active under cool, mostly dry conditions. In Texas, moderate rainfall in some areas helped small grains and pastures recover, but the Panhandle remained warm, dry, and windy. Rainfall in Georgia continued to improve small grain conditions but created muddy pastures. Vegetable planting and harvesting remained active in Florida under warm, dry conditions.


United States Snow Depth
(Inches)
Minor wheat area
Major wheat area
January 30, 2006
Values >= 10 are printed in a larger font
Snow depth at 12Z
The NWS cooperative network is the principal source of the snow depth reports
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

International Weather and Crop Summary

January 22 - 28, 2006

International Weather and Crop Highlights and Summaries provided by USDA/WAOB

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Bitterly cold arctic air remained entrenched over eastern Europe, with damaging freezes spreading into central and southern Europe.

FSU-WESTERN: Light to moderate snow accompanied a gradual warming trend in northern Russia, while bitter cold persisted in southern Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus, threatening winter grains in areas that lacked a sufficient snow cover.

MIDDLE EAST: Beneficial rain and snow prevailed in Turkey, while warmer, unsettled weather returned to Iran.

EASTERN ASIA: Seasonably dry weather returned to southern growing areas of China.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Heavy rainfall likely caused flooding in Java and the northern Philippines.

AUSTRALIA: Drier weather overspread eastern Australia, increasing irrigation requirements for summer crops.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Widespread rain maintained favorable prospects for winter wheat.

SOUTH AFRICA: Conditions remained mostly favorable for corn, sugarcane, and other summer crops.

BRAZIL: Beneficial rain continued in the southern soybean belt, but dry pockets persisted in crop areas of the Center-West and Northeast regions.

ARGENTINA: Unfavorable warmth and dryness returned to important summer grain and oilseed areas of central Argentina.

EUROPE

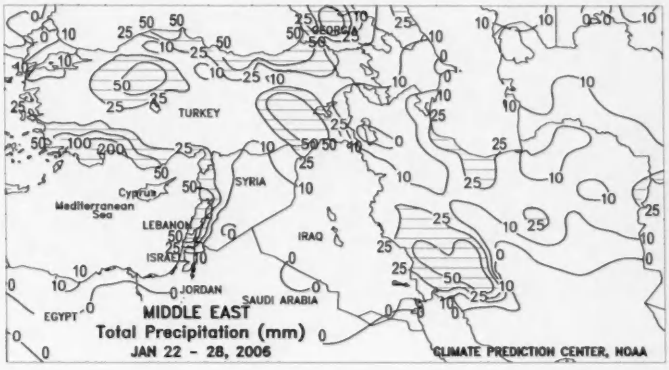
Bitterly cold arctic air remained entrenched over eastern Europe, with damaging freezes spreading into central and southern growing areas. A large arctic high maintained bitterly cold air across much of eastern Europe, with temperatures averaging 8 to 15 degrees C below normal in Poland and the Baltics. Nighttime lows dropped below -30 degrees C across much of central and southeastern Poland, although a sufficient snowpack (10-25 cm) protected dormant winter grains. In southeastern Europe, the coldest air of the season (-20 to -15 degrees C) coupled with little or no protective snow cover exposed winter wheat in Hungary, Serbia, southern Romania, and northern Bulgaria to winterkill. In Germany, temperatures as low as -23 degrees C in northeastern growing areas threatened dormant winter grains due to patchy snow cover, while somewhat milder nighttime readings (-15 to -8 degrees C) across the remainder of Germany spared grains from potential winterkill. Sub-freezing readings also spread southward to the central and eastern Mediterranean coast, likely damaging maturing citrus (typically harvested from February into April.) Meanwhile, dry weather returned to much of northern Europe, increasing concerns over developing moisture shortages in northeastern France, western Germany, southeastern England, and the Benelux Countries. In western Europe, locally heavy rain (25-80 mm) across the southern Iberian Peninsula eased concerns over developing drought, although more rain will be needed to ease irrigation demands.

FSU-WESTERN

The second consecutive week of bitterly cold weather extended as far south as the Black Sea coast. Most locations in Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus reported minimum temperatures that ranged from -35 to -20 degrees C for 3 or more consecutive days. In northern Russia, a gradual warming trend and light to moderate snow (5-25 mm of liquid equivalent) spread eastward across the region, boosting the protective snow cover and improving overwintering conditions for crops. Frigid weather persisted throughout the Southern Region in Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus during most of the week, threatening winter grains in areas that lacked a sufficient snow cover. Although a few locations received scattered snow showers (mostly less than 10 mm of liquid equivalent), snow depths throughout these areas varied considerably. On January 23 (one of the coldest days), snow depths reportedly ranged from 4 to 28 cm in the Southern Region, 2 to 49 cm in Ukraine, and 2 to 10 cm in Belarus. At week's end, temperatures moderated in these areas, improving overwintering conditions for crops. Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 9 degrees C below normal in northern Russia, 7 to 12 degrees C below normal in Belarus, and 10 to 20 degrees C below normal in Ukraine and the Southern Region in Russia.

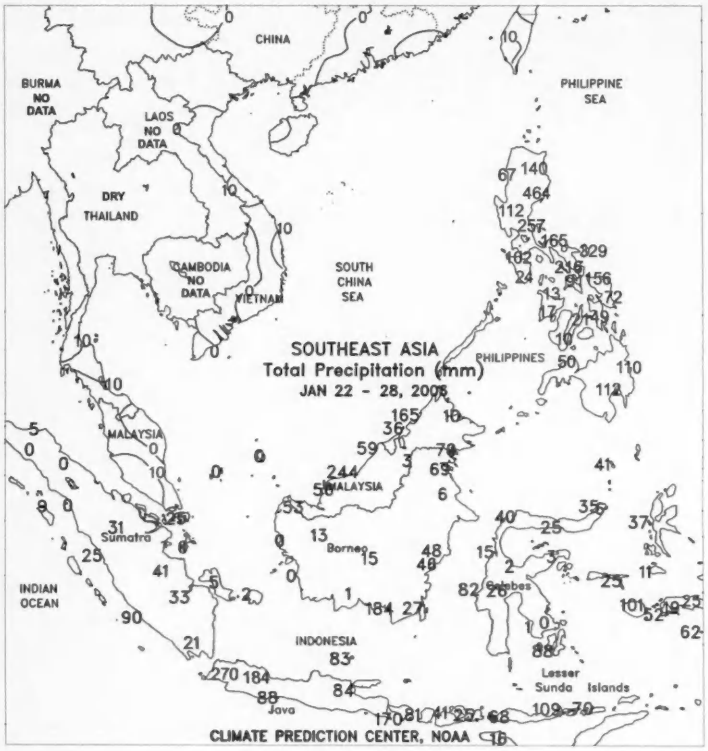
MIDDLE EAST

A second consecutive week of rain and snow benefited winter grains in Turkey, while unsettled, warmer weather returned to northwestern Iran. A pair of storms brought widespread rain and snow (15-75 mm of liquid equivalent) to much of Turkey and the eastern Mediterranean Coast, further easing recent moisture deficits and benefiting dormant winter grains. Along Turkey's southern coast, hardest hit by recent dryness, locally heavy rain (100-200 mm) greatly reduced season-to-date rainfall deficits but caused local flooding. Farther east, light showers (5-15 mm) in central and eastern Syria maintained topsoil moisture and eased irrigation demands. In Iran, light rain and snow (less than 5 mm of liquid equivalent) in northern growing areas contrasted with heavy rain and snow (40-60 mm of liquid equivalent) in southern winter wheat areas. More rain and snow will be needed during the upcoming weeks across northwestern Iran to ensure adequate moisture for winter grain development during the spring growing season.



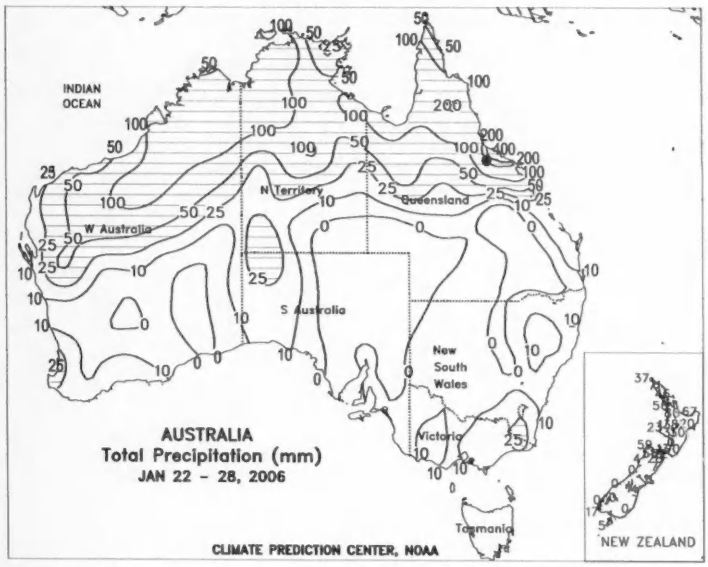
EASTERN ASIA

After last week's rainfall, seasonably dry weather returned to China. The drier weather eased wetness in areas that experienced flooding. Temperatures remained 1 to 3 degrees C above normal, while maximum temperatures between 5 and 10 degrees C eroded the light snow cover across the western winter wheat areas of the North China Plain. Conditions continued to be favorable for overwintering wheat and rapeseed in China.



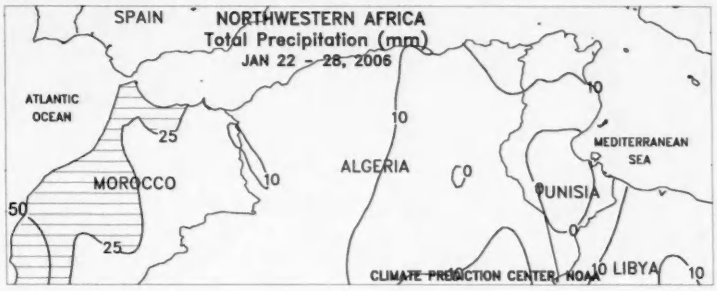
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Heavy monsoon showers (100-400 mm) likely caused flooding in rice fields of Java. However, only minor damage would be expected as rice is highly tolerant to flood waters. Showers were lighter (25-50 mm) in Sumatra after last week's deluge, allowing some oil palm harvesting to resume. A tropical disturbance brought heavy showers (100-400 mm) to the northern Philippines, causing flooding along the coast and low lying, inland areas.



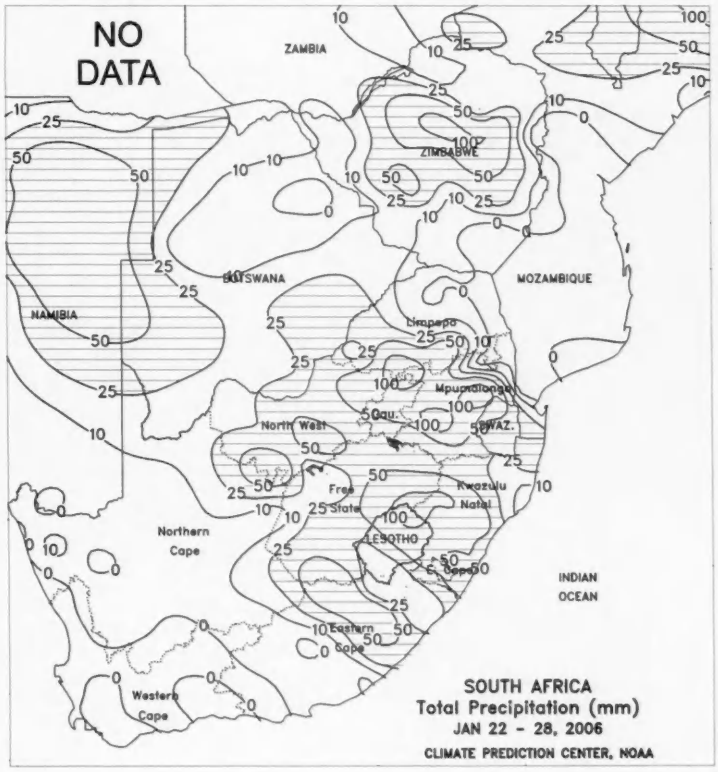
AUSTRALIA

Following last week's widespread rain, drier weather overspread eastern Australia. Isolated showers (5-25 mm) maintained local moisture supplies in northern New South Wales. However, mostly dry (less than 3 mm) weather in southern Queensland contributed to net evaporative losses, increasing irrigation requirements. Warmer-than-normal (temperatures averaging about 1-2 degrees C above normal) weather prevailed across eastern Australia as well, spurring cotton and sorghum development. Despite the unseasonable warmth, maximum temperatures were generally in the lower to middle 30s degrees C, minimizing stress on summer crops.



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Wet weather maintained favorable conditions for winter wheat development across much of the region. For the second consecutive week, a slow-moving storm triggered widespread rain (25-50 mm) in Morocco, boosting moisture reserves for vegetative winter wheat. Farther east, widespread showers (10-30 mm) in northern Tunisia and Algeria maintained favorable prospects for winter grains, while generally dry weather in central and southern Algeria allowed fields to dry following last week's heavy rain. Temperatures remained near to slightly below normal, with no damaging freezes reported.

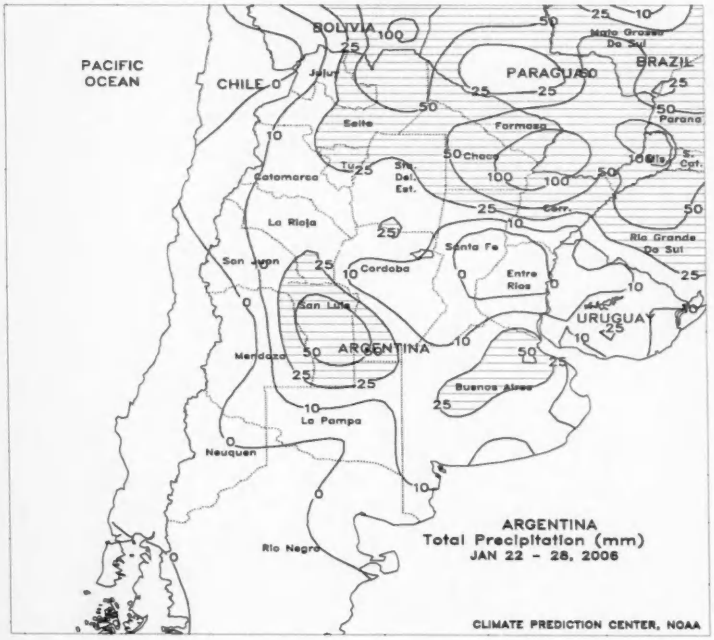


SOUTH AFRICA

Widespread rain (25-50 mm or more) returned to the corn belt, maintaining favorable conditions for summer crops advancing through reproductive phases of development. Mild weather (near-normal temperatures, with highs in the upper 20s and lower 30s degrees C) accompanied the rainfall, promoting summer crop development in the absence of stressful heat. Beneficial rain was also recorded in KwaZulu-Natal and eastern growing areas of Eastern Cape, but seasonably drier weather returned to the mostly irrigated agricultural lands of Northern Cape. In Western Cape, summer heat and dryness kept irrigation demands high.

BRAZIL

Beneficial rain (25-50 mm or more) covered major crop areas of southern Brazil, benefiting soybeans, corn, and other summer crops advancing through reproductive phases of development. Unlike last week, when scattered showers brought only local relief from dryness from Rio Grande do Sul to Mato Grosso do Sul, rainfall exceeding 25 mm was recorded over a broad area as far north as southern Goias. However, dry pockets continued in the remainder of Goias, eastern growing areas of Mato Grosso, and a large area from northern Sao Paulo to Bahia and Tocantins, limiting moisture not only for immature soybeans but also citrus and coffee. Above-normal temperatures exacerbated the impact of dryness on immature summer crops throughout the driest locations, with highs commonly exceeding 35 degrees C. Showers were developing over these areas at week's end. *(More information will appear in next week's Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin regarding the amount and coverage of these needed rains.)*



ARGENTINA

Unseasonable warmth and dryness returned to much of central Argentina, increasing moisture demands of immature summer grains and oilseeds and raising concern for potential stress on reproductive soybeans and late-planted corn. The affected area included key growing areas of Cordoba, Santa Fe, and Entre Rios, where little if any rain was recorded and temperatures rose to the middle 30s degrees C by week's end. Moderate to locally heavy showers (10-25 mm, locally exceeding 50 mm) overspread Buenos Aires and neighboring locations of northeastern La Pampa and southern Cordoba, but late-week temperatures also rose above 35 degrees C in these more well-watered areas, keeping crop moisture use unseasonably high. However, the showers in southeastern Buenos Aires did not impede seasonal fieldwork. According to Argentina's Agricultural Secretariat, winter wheat was 100 percent harvested as of January 26, about 2 weeks later than last year's completion date. Farther north, heavier rain (25-100 mm or more) greatly increased moisture for cotton development and the water needs of livestock and pastures.

Bitterly Cold Weather Grips Europe and the Former USSR

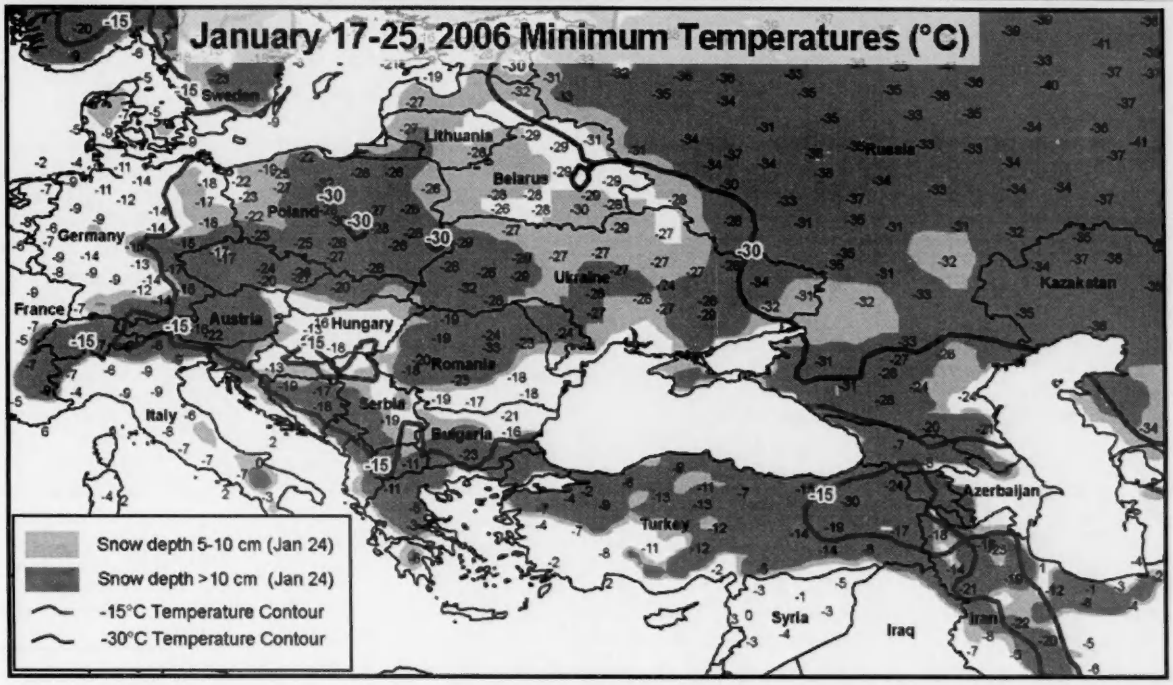


Figure 1. Map depicts extreme minimum temperatures (degrees C) reported January 17-25, 2006. In addition, snow depth analysis for January 24, 2006 (estimated by the Global Forecast System) is depicted by the light (5-10 cm) and dark (greater than 10 cm) shading.

A severe cold wave overspread western areas of the former USSR and most of Europe during January 17 through 28, threatening winter crops and Mediterranean citrus. The coldest readings, as depicted in Figure 1, were observed from January 17-25. On January 17, frigid air from Siberia pushed westward into winter grain areas of Russia, causing a rapid decline in temperatures. The bitter cold subsequently spread across winter grains in Ukraine, Belarus, and Europe. During the initial onset of the bitter cold in Russia, snow cover was shallow (less than 10 cm) in the western and southern parts of the Central Region, and in an area that extended from the northern portion of the Southern Region northward into parts of the Volga Region, leaving winter grains highly vulnerable to the extreme cold. The arctic chill continued to overspread Ukraine and Belarus on January 19. Simultaneously, a storm system spread light to moderate snow across these areas, providing a fresh but highly variable snow cover. The snow continued to spread eastward into parts of the Southern and Volga Regions in Russia, boosting the snow cover (see Figure 1.) The bitter cold in Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus was persistent, with nighttime lows at most locations ranging from -35 to -20 for 3 or more consecutive days. Lowest temperatures reported during the severe cold wave ranged from -41 to -20 degrees C in Russia and -34 to -24 in Ukraine and Belarus. Winter grains likely sustained some freeze damage in areas that lacked a sufficient snow cover.

Farther west, cold air began to spill into Poland on January 20, and encompassed much of central and eastern Europe by January 24. Fortunately, an increasingly deep snowpack preceded the arctic blast in Poland, minimizing the threat of winterkill. However, portions of southeastern Europe remained devoid of snow cover. In particular, much of Hungary as well as the Danube River Valley in the Balkans (separates Romania from Serbia and Bulgaria) lacked a protective snow cover, leaving winter grains vulnerable to potential freeze damage. Other crop areas of concern in Europe include winter grains in northeastern Germany (where snow cover was patchy) and citrus along the central and eastern Mediterranean coast, which sustained a hard freeze on 3 or more consecutive days (January 24-27). For all areas (Europe and the former USSR), the full extent of damage to winter grains will not be apparent until crops begin breaking dormancy in the spring.

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